

Remarks

Claims 8 and 10 through 15, 19, and 22-26 are pending in this application. Claims 1 through 7, 9, and 16-18, 20, 21, and 27 have been cancelled without prejudice.

Applicant notes with appreciation that claims 12, 13, and 24 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Claims 8, 9, 11, 14, 15-21, 23, 26, and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 1,919,376 to Moody ("Moody"). Claims 16-18, 20, 21, and 27 are canceled rendering the rejections thereto moot.

Independent claims 8 and 19, as amended, recite, in part, "an oblong displacement unit." This feature is important since it minimizes pressure variations and, thus, the adverse effects noted on pages 2-3 of the present application. Support for amended claims 8 and 19 is found at least in Figures 1, 3a, 5, and 6 and page 7, lines 10-11 of the application. Also, claims 8 and 19 provide the feature of now cancelled claim 9 that in addition assists in minimizing the pressure variations.

Moody provides "a conical core 27" as shown in Figure 1.

Therefore, Moody fails to disclose or suggest an oblong displacement unit, as recited in claims 8 and 19. Clearly, Moody fails to disclose or suggest this feature of claims 8 and 19.

Claims 11 and 14 depend from claim 8 and claims 23, 25, and 26 depend from claim 19, and, therefore, are patentable over Moody for at least the reasons described above for independent claims 8 and 19. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

In addition, claims 11 and 23 provide that the displacement unit is supported by rods connected to the pipe.

Moody provides "lower stay vanes 23" and "spreading annular passage 18 terminates at 24 in a collector passage 25". Thus, the lower stay vanes of Moody do not support a displacement unit.

Therefore, Moody fails to disclose or suggest that the displacement unit is supported by rods connected to the pipe, as recited by claims 11 and 23.

Claims 8, 9, 11, 14, 16-21, 23, 25, and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 3,292,901 to Donaldson ("Donaldson"). Claims 16-18, 20, 21, and 27 are canceled rendering the rejections thereto moot.

Again, independent claims 8 and 19 recite, in part, "an oblong displacement unit."

Donaldson provides "body means 62 is substantially frusto-conical in configuration..." (col. 4, lines 51-52).

Thus, Donaldson fails to disclose or suggest an oblong displacement unit, as recited by claims 8 and 19. Therefore, Donaldson fails to disclose or suggest all of the features of independent claims 8 and 19. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

Claims 11 and 14 depend from claim 8 and claims 23 and 25 depend from claim 19, and, therefore, are patentable over Donaldson for at least the reasons described above for independent claims 8 and 19.

Claims 10 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Moody.

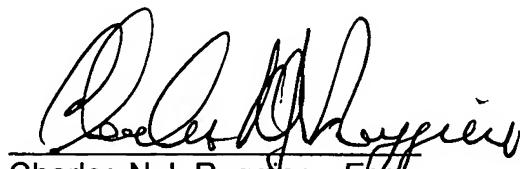
As discussed above, Moody fails to disclose or suggest all of the features of independent claims 8 and 19, and, therefore, claims 8 and 19 are patentable over Moody. Similarly, Claim 10 depends from claim 8 and claim 22 depends from claim 19, and, therefore, are patentable over Moody.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims in this application are patentably distinct from the cited art. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request favorable consideration and that this application be passed to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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